

This version of the claims replaces all previous versions.

1. (currently amended) A fishing leader storage assembly comprising:
a container having an interior storage space and at least a pair of opposed upstanding walls with slots formed therein; and
at least one leader hanger for storing one or more fishing leaders, wherein each leader hanger is formed as an elongated member having a plurality of integral leader support members thereon, wherein the elongated member has a length and opposed longitudinal wall portions and the support members extend from at least one longitudinal wall portion at fixed spaced longitudinal locations so that a leader may be retained in a longitudinal storage position,
wherein the at least one leader hanger is removably supported in the slots in the container.
2. (original) The storage assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one leader hanger comprises a plurality of leader hangers.
3. (original) The storage assembly of claim 1, wherein each support member has a pair of arcuate edges formed therein.
4. (original) The storage assembly of claim 1, wherein the elongated member is flexible such that the distance between support members can be varied by flexing the elongated member.
5. (original) The storage assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one leader hanger is constructed of molded plastic.
6. (original) The storage assembly of claim 1, wherein the leader hanger has ends and the ends are releasably retained in the slots.
7. (original) The storage assembly of claim 1, wherein the container includes a storage tray that has the pair of upstanding walls.
8. (original) The storage assembly of claim 7, wherein the storage tray is pivotally connected to the container and is movable between a storage position and a leader access position.
9. (original) The storage assembly of claim 1, further comprising a cover attached to the container.

10. (original) The storage assembly of claim 1, wherein the container includes removable partition walls.

11. (original) The storage assembly of claim 10, wherein the slots are formed in the removable partition walls and the leader hanger hangs between the removable partition walls.

12. (original) The storage assembly of claim 11, wherein a plurality of leader hangers hang in spaced parallel relation between the removable partition walls.

13. (original) The storage assembly of claim 1, wherein the leader hanger has an arm extending from each end and forming a finger that hooks to the slots in the container.

14. (original) The storage assembly of claim 1, wherein the leader hanger has opposed ends and longitudinally extending slots, wherein the slots are longitudinally spaced from the leader support members, such that a leader can be retained by one of the opposed ends and at least one leader support member in a longitudinal orientation.

15. (currently amended) A storage assembly comprising:
a container with an interior storage space and upstanding walls, wherein the upstanding walls have ~~having~~ a leader holding structure; and
at least one leader hanger for storing a fishing leader formed as an elongated member having at least two flexible support members thereon for securing a fishing leader thereto, wherein the at least one leader hanger is removably supported in the container by the leader holding structure.

16. (original) The storage assembly of claim 15, wherein the leader holding structure is a series of spaced slots formed in opposed upstanding walls of the container, and the at least one leader hanger is releasably retained in opposed slots.

17. (original) The storage assembly of claim 15, wherein a plurality of leader hangers are supported in a spaced, parallel arrangement in the container by the leader holding structure.

18. (original) The storage assembly of claim 15, wherein the at least one leader hanger has flexible support members disposed along a length of an elongated side wall portion of the elongated member so that ends of a leader can be supported by the flexible support members and the leader can be stored in a taut condition.

19. (original) The storage assembly of claim 18, wherein each support member has an arcuate recess.

20. (original) The storage assembly of claim 15, wherein the elongated member is flexible and can be flexed between an equilibrium configuration and a flexed configuration to vary the distance between the flexible support members.

21. (original) The storage assembly of claim 15, further comprising a storage tray pivotally retained in the container, wherein the leader hanger is releasably retained in the storage tray.

22. (original) The storage assembly of claim 15, further comprising removable partitions retained in the container, wherein the removable partitions form the leader holding structure.

23. (original) The storage assembly of claim 22, wherein each removable partition has a top and at least one slot formed in the top, wherein each elongated member has opposed ends that are retained in the slots.

24. (new) A fishing leader storage assembly comprising:

a molded plastic container having an interior storage space and a pair of opposed upstanding walls with slots formed therein; and

at least one molded plastic leader hanger removably disposed in the molded plastic container, wherein the leader hanger is a generally flat elongated flexible member with ends that engage the slots in the upstanding walls of the molded plastic container and sides that form leader support members that extend outwardly along the length of the elongated flexible member, so that fishing leaders may be secured between leader support members by flexing the leader hanger.